

Please delete the entire paragraph beginning on page 7, line 6 through line 10, and replace it with the following paragraph:

A²

The wear sleeve has an external portion 34 that extends outwardly beyond the front face of the bit holder block. The other portion of the wear sleeve is adapted to be received in the bit holder. This portion includes the forward tapered portion 20, groove section 24, retainer 26 and rearward disc end portion 22 which fit into the bit holder 10 cavity bore. This external portion of the wear sleeve includes a shoulder 32 for grasping, leveraging and prying against in order to remove the wear sleeve.

Please delete the entire paragraph beginning on page 9, line 5-16, and replace it with the following paragraph:

A³

The shoulder 32 is axially spaced from the forward tapered portion 20 of the wear sleeve. Between the forward tapered portion 20 of the wear sleeve and shoulder 32 is a rounded undercut section 30. The undercut section 30 forms a preferential fail point on the wear sleeve whenever the cutting tool is subjected to abnormally high operating loads. The failure of the wear sleeve at the undercut prevents an expensive bit holder from failing (breaking) or being knocked off the drum. Replacement of blocks is more expensive than replacing wear sleeves and welding of blocks back onto a drum, for instance, is more time consuming than hammering a replacement wear sleeve into place.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 4, 12 and 14.

Claim 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 15 and 18 have been amended as follows:

A⁴ sub C1

1. (Amended) An apparatus for mounting a cutting tool used in mining, road working or earth moving comprising: a bit holder, a protective wear